

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prosecution on the merits has been closed in accordance with Ex parte Quayle. The examiner has objected to the form of claims 1-3, 9-10, 13, 16-21, 44, 47-48, 51 and 55-57 but acknowledged that they would be allowable if amended to overcome the objections. Claims 1, 10, 17, 19, 38, and 51 have been amended for clarity consistent with suggestions made by the examiner.

In claim 1 line 17, "a" has been inserted before "continuous".

The Examiner has stated that claims 9, 10, 13 and 19, are not in accord with claim 1 in that claim 1 recites "wherein said inside peripheral face is fastened to said outside peripheral face by annular adhesive between them". Applicant respectfully submits that there is no inconsistency for the following reasons.

The ferrule may be fastened to the cylinder by an adhesive between an area of the inside peripheral face of the ferrule and an area of the outside peripheral face of the cylinder as recited in claim 1. As recited in dependent claim 9, the ferrule and cylinder may optionally be further secured by

"including an annular sealing gasket of an elastically compressible material interposed in elastic transverse compression stress between said inside peripheral face and said outside peripheral face, at least in the immediate vicinity of said front face"

Support for claim 9 is found in the specification at page 32, line 3, where it is stated that

...the adhesive sets between the inside peripheral face 23 of the ferrule 5 and the

outside peripheral face 12 of the annular end 3 of the cylinder 2

and the sealing gasket or film 18, if any,

thereby fastening the ferrule 5 with the ring 4 to the cylinder 2

and the gasket or film 18, if any,

by adhesion in the zone where they are mutually in contact [emphasis added].

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claim 9, and claims 10 and 13 which depend from claim 9 are consistent with claim 1. For similar reasons, claim 19 is also consistent with claim 1.

Claim 10 (believed to have been erroneously referred to in the office action as claim 13) has been amended to change "transverse dimension" to "thickness", these parameters being synonymous in the present context. The amendment has been made to clarify the claim for the Examiner without intent to change its scope.

In claim 17 lines 3-4, the phrase "also form a transverse projection relative thereto to" has been deleted, and "serve" has been replaced with "serves" to clarify the claim as requested by the Examiner.

In claim 19 line 3, the phrase "of the ferrule" has been inserted between "face" and "and" as requested by the Examiner.

In claim 38 line 1, "pipe" has been replaced with "pipe, the pipe" for clarity as requested by the Examiner.

In claim 38 line 29, "a" has been inserted before "continuous" as requested by the Examiner.

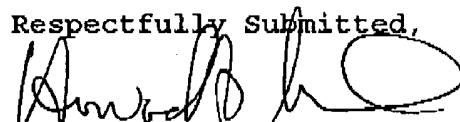
In claim 38 line 36, the phrase "respectively during the initial step and during" has been changed to "during" for clarity.

In claim 51 lines 12-14, the phrase "wherein said adhesive ... fasten them together" has been deleted to avoid redundancy with respect to claim 38.

Applicant has further amended claim 51 to recite "another ring of adhesive" and "another localized zone" for accordance with claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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